THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) and (b) Names of these airports are given in the enclosed Statements (A) & (B) (*See* below).

(c) The average annual operation and maintenance cost is Rs. 25 lakhs per airport. These airports are economically not viable.

(d) and (e) Closure of these airports is not envisaged at present. However, the matter may be reviewed if viability of the airports does not improve with economic development of the concerned regions.

Statement 'A'

(A) National Airports Authority Aerodromes which receive single flight a day

1. Aizwal
2. Belgaum
3. Cooch Behar
4. Dehradun
5. Dibrugarh
6. Dimapur
7. Kolhapur
8. Madurai
9. Porbandar
10. Simla
11. Tiruchirappalli
12. Tirupati

Statement 'B'

(B) National Airports Authority Aerodromes which receive two or three flights per week

1. Gaggal
2. Kandla
3. Rajamundri
4. Vijayawada
5. Pondicherry
6. Tuticorin
7. Agatti

Inspection of Boeing plane engine mounting parts

2102. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that the Boeing Aircraft Company has asked Air India to conduct frequent inspection of Boeing plane engine mounting parts;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the number of Boeing planes at present in the fleet of Air India and in what manner Air India proposes to conduct frequent inspections of the engine mounting parts of the planes ?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) Boeing Company has asked all Boeing-747 aircraft operators, including Air India, to inspect the 'strut to wing' attached pins after a certain number of landings or alternatively, replace the pins, with new pins provided by the Boeing Company. Air India has 11 Boeing-747 aircraft and the pins in all these aircraft have been replaced with new pins.

Delayed Indian airlines and Air India flights due to hoax bomb calls

2103. SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA : Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that many Air India and Indian Airlines flights were delayed in the recent past due to hoax bomb calls;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof for the last one year;

(c) the amount of losses suffered by these two airlines due to delay in flights; and

(d) what action Government proposes to take to detect hoax bomb calls to prevent delay in flights?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI GHULAM NABI AZAD) : (a) to (c) During the period August, 1992 to July, 1993, 36 flights of Indian Airlines were delayed due to hoax bomb calls. The expenditure incurred for providing refreshment etc. to passengers of the delayed flights during the period is estimated at Rs. 2·60 lakhs. Information in respect of Air India is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(d) The following preventive measures have been/are being taken :—

(i) Telephone authorities have been approached to make arrangements where ever feasible for tracing the originators of such calls.

(ii) The existing procedure to deal with bomb threats is being revised to make distinction between 'specific' and 'non-specific' calls.